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Attorney's Docket No. 1018798-000171

Application No. 10/612,154

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original) An absorbent product for men, comprising
a front section,
a rear section, and
a crotch section between the front and rear sections,
an absorption body which tapers towards one end from a front section of the product towards the crotch section of the product and which is enclosed in a sheath comprising a liquid-tight layer on a side of the absorption body facing away from the user during use and a liquid-permeable layer on an opposite side of the absorption body, both of which layers extend beyond the absorption body and are mutually joined together, and
the absorption body is arranged to extend, during product usage, from the front section of the product in the direction of the crotch section and is adapted to extend with its narrower end section to slightly below the penis of the user,
on the liquid-permeable layer, at the narrower end section of the absorption body, a liquid barrier is applied, which is arranged to prevent urine emitted by the user from leaking from the surface of the absorption body towards the crotch region of the user.

2. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the absorbent product is an insert adapted for use with underpants and the absorbent product is provided with one or more fastening members on an outer side of the liquid-tight layer, which fastening members are adapted to hold the absorbent product in place inside the underpants.

3. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the product as a whole has a pants shape, the front section and the rear section being adapted to surround a waist of the user, and the front or rear section is provided with waist elastic which is adapted to hold the absorbent product in place on the user.

4. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 3, wherein the front section has at least one elastic member, which, during product usage, enables the front section of the product to be pulled down, counter to the action of the elastic member, to a position in which an upper limit edge of the front section in the middle region of the front section is situated below the penis of the user, at the same time as the upper limit edge of the front section in the two outer edge regions of the front section is arranged to be held in place around the waist of the user, in that the absorption body is configured with one or more deformation zones, which enable those parts of the absorption body which, during product usage, are situated above and over the penis of the user to be drawn down together with the rest of the front section when the front section of the product is pulled down, and the front section of the product and the absorption body are arranged to be returned by the elastic member to their original usage position.

5. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 3, wherein the waist elastic is formed from an elastic first piece which, in the extended state, is essentially rectangular and which is adapted to partially surround the trunk of the user and form the rear section and side sections of the pants product, a second piece, incorporated in the product, is configured to form the front section and crotch section of the pants product, the second piece is elongated with two opposing end edges and two opposing longitudinal edges, the width of the second piece, at least at the crotch section, is less than the length of the first piece, the second piece with its longitudinal direction is arranged perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the first piece and is connected by a first end section to the one longitudinal edge section of the first piece and centrally on this, the one end section of the first piece is connected to a first side edge section of the second piece, and the second end section of the first piece is correspondingly connected to a second side edge section of the second piece, and the absorption body applied, in its entirety, on the second piece.

6. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier is arranged to follow the contour of the lower, narrower end section of the absorption body and is applied in its entirety inside the said contour.

7. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier crosses the absorption body close to its narrower end and the liquid barrier is convex in the direction of the said end.

8. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 7, wherein the liquid barrier extends in the lateral direction beyond the absorption body and in the transverse direction spans the whole of the absorbent product.

9. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier, at least during product usage and at least close to the middle of the absorption body in the transverse direction, has a height of at least 5 mm.

10. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier, at least during product usage and at least close to the middle of the absorption body in the transverse direction, has a height of at least 10 mm.

11. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier, at least during product usage and at least close to the middle of the absorption body in the transverse direction, has a height of at least 20 mm.

12. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier is fixed in the rest of the absorbent product only along its outer edge section and inner-situated sections of the liquid barrier are arranged to be raised from the liquid-permeable layer during product usage.

13. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier is constituted by a roll formed from one or more band-shaped materials,

which roll is bent into a convex shape in the direction of the narrower end of the absorption body.

14. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier is constituted by a number of circumferential folds of one or more band-shaped materials, which liquid barrier, following the formation of the folds, is elongated in the direction of the fold lines forming the folds, and the liquid barrier is folded or bent into shape.

15. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 14, wherein the elongated liquid barrier is folded in the middle along a transverse oblique line, at an angle of 45° , in relation to the longitudinal direction to form a V-shaped liquid barrier with the point of the V against the crotch section.

16. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 14, wherein the elongated liquid barrier is folded at two places along transverse lines along an acute angle, viewed from the lower limit edge of the liquid barrier in the applied position, to form an essentially U-shaped liquid barrier with the base of the U against the crotch section,

17. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 16, wherein the acute angle is less than 45° .

18. (Currently Amended) The absorbent product according to Claim 13, wherein the band-shaped material consists of non-woven, ~~preferably hydrophobic non-woven material~~, or of a laminate of non-woven material and a plastics film.

19. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 12, wherein the liquid barrier is constituted by a single material strip which has been folded or bent into suitable shape before being applied.

20. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 19, wherein the single material strip is a hydrophobic non-woven material.

21. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 14, wherein the liquid barrier, on its free longitudinal edge section, is provided with a pretensioned longitudinal elastic element, which element is adapted to hold the liquid barrier in the raised state during product usage.

22. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 21, wherein the pretensioned longitudinal elastic element is an elastic thread.

23. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 14, wherein the liquid barrier has an inherent stiffness of such magnitude that a liquid barrier applied in the folded or bent state, by virtue of its own inherent stiffness in the bent or folded state during product usage, is held with its free longitudinal edge section in the raised state.

24. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the absorption body is formed from cellulose fluff, with highly absorbent material mixed in, and the liquid barrier is constituted by a moulding, which is formed from air-laid cellulose fluff fibers, and this moulding is applied so that it follows the contour of the narrower end section of the absorption body on or directly outside this.

25. (Original) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier is constituted by a foam material which has been cast or folded into the desired shape.

26. (Previously Presented) An absorbent product for men, comprising:
a front section,
a rear section, and
a crotch section between the front and rear sections,
an absorption body which tapers from a wide end at the front section of the product towards a narrow end at the crotch section of the product and which is enclosed in a sheath comprising a liquid-tight layer on a side of the absorption body facing away from the user during use and a liquid-permeable layer on an opposite side of the absorption body, both of which layers extend beyond the absorption body and are mutually joined together, and

the absorption body is arranged to extend, during product usage, from the front section of the product in the direction of the crotch section and is adapted to extend with its narrow end section to slightly below the penis of the user,

a liquid barrier is arranged at the narrow end section of the absorption body so as to prevent urine emitted by the user from moving beyond the absorption body towards the crotch region of the user.

27. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 26, wherein the absorbent product is an insert adapted for use with underpants and the absorbent product is provided with one or more fastening members on an outer side of the liquid-tight layer, which fastening members are adapted to hold the absorbent product in place inside the underpants.

28. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 26, wherein the product as a whole has a pants shape, the front section and the rear section being adapted to surround a waist of the user, and the front or rear section is provided with waist elastic which is adapted to hold the absorbent product in place on the user.

29. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier is liquid impermeable.

30. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 26, wherein the liquid barrier is liquid impermeable.

31. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 30, wherein the product as a whole has a pants shape, the front section and the rear

section being adapted to surround a waist of the user, and the front or rear section is provided with waist elastic which is adapted to hold the absorbent product in place on the user.

32. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 31, wherein the liquid barrier is a separate piece from the absorption body.

33. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 1, wherein the liquid barrier is a separate piece from the absorption body.

34. (Previously Presented) An absorbent product for men, comprising:
a front section,
a rear section, and
a crotch section between the front and rear sections,
an absorption body which tapers from a wide end at the front section of the product to a narrow end towards the crotch section of the product and which is enclosed in a sheath comprising a liquid-tight layer on a side of the absorption body facing away from the user during use and a liquid-permeable layer on an opposite side of the absorption body, both of which layers extend beyond the absorption body and are mutually joined together, and

the absorption body is arranged to extend, during product usage, from the front section of the product in the direction of the crotch section and is adapted to extend with its narrow end section slightly below the penis of the user,

at the narrow end section of the absorption body or between the narrow end and the wide end of the absorption body, a liquid barrier is arranged either between the liquid-tight layer and the liquid-permeable layer or on the liquid-permeable layer, the liquid barrier is arranged to prevent urine emitted by the user from moving beyond the narrow end towards the crotch region of the user.

35. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product according to Claim 34, wherein the liquid barrier is arranged between the liquid-tight layer and the liquid-permeable layer.

36. (New) The absorbent product according to Claim 13, wherein the band-shaped material consists of hydrophobic non-woven material or of a laminate of non-woven material and a plastics film.